

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

- 1           1. A method of masking data on a DVD for selective  
2 playback upon demand or for transcription to another medium,  
3           the DVD adapted for communication with a player or  
4 transcriber such that the DVD has a start location and a stop  
5 location with at least one data track therebetween,  
6           each data track including a data recording area for  
7 executing at least one of recording and reproducing the data, and  
8 each track including a start position indicative of a beginning  
9 location for the data recording area for that track, the start  
10 location precedes the first start position for the first track for at  
11 least one of location or time, and the stop location follows the last  
12 data recording area for the last track for at least one of location  
13 or time,  
14           the first start position is indicative of the beginning of the  
15 data recording area for a first track and the start position for  
16 each subsequent track, if any, is indicative of the beginning of the  
17 data recording area for the respective track,  
18           the method comprising the steps of:  
19           (a) determining the position of the start location,  
20           (b) determining the position of the stop location,  
21           (c) positioning at least one data track on the DVD  
22 between the start location and the stop location such that  
23 the data track has, adjacent thereto, at least one of

sufficient location or time for accepting a concealed data track, which sufficient location or time is defined as a gap,

(d) impressing data on the DVD and within the gap for defining the concealed track having a hidden recording area such that the hidden recording area is located adjacent any data track and contains concealed data which can be accessed upon demand for transcription to another medium or for playback.

2. The method of masking data on a DVD for selective playback upon demand or for transcription to another medium as defined in claim 1 wherein the step of impressing data on the storage medium for generating the concealed data track further comprises the step of generating the concealed data track comprising the steps of:

(a) identifying a position within the gap relative to at least one of location or time for operative association with a player/transcriber,

(b) impressing the concealed data track on the storage medium at the identified position comprising the steps of:

(1) impressing a recording area within the concealed data track, and

(2) impressing a start position within the concealed data track for indicating the location where the recording area begins for the concealed track.

1           3.    The method of masking data on a DVD for selective  
2    playback upon demand or for transcription to another medium  
3    as defined in claim 2 wherein the step of identifying a position  
4    within the gap comprises the step of identifying a position within  
5    the gap and with respect to the start location.

1           4.    The method of masking data on a DVD for selective  
2    playback upon demand or for transcription to another medium  
3    as defined in claim 2 wherein the step of identifying a position  
4    within the gap comprises the step of identifying a position within  
5    the gap and with respect to the start position of any track.

1           5.    The method of masking data on a DVD for selective  
2    playback upon demand or for transcription to another medium  
3    as defined in claim 3 wherein the step of identifying a position  
4    within the gap and with respect to the start location comprises  
5    the step of identifying a position before the start location which  
6    position defines a pre-gap.

1           6.    The method of masking data on a DVD for selective  
2    playback upon demand or for transcription to another medium  
3    as defined in claim 5 wherein the step of identifying a position  
4    before the start location comprises the step of identifying a  
5    portion of the pre-gap.

1           7.    The method of masking data on a DVD for selective  
2    playback upon demand or for transcription to another medium

3 as defined in claim 5 wherein the step of identifying a position  
4 before the start location comprises the step of identifying all of the  
5 pre-gap.

1 8. The method of masking data on a DVD for selective  
2 playback upon demand or for transcription to another medium  
3 as defined in claim 3 wherein the step of identifying a position  
4 within the gap and with respect to the start location comprises  
5 the step of identifying a position after the start location.

1 9. The method of masking data on a DVD for selective  
2 playback upon demand or for transcription to another medium  
3 as defined in claim 4 wherein the step of identifying a position  
4 within the gap and with respect to the start position of any track  
5 comprises the step of identifying a position before the start  
6 position of the track.

1 10. The method of masking data on a DVD for selective  
2 playback upon demand or for transcription to another medium  
3 as defined in claim 4 wherein the step of identifying a position  
4 within the gap and with respect to the start position comprises  
5 the step of identifying a position after the start position of any  
6 track.

1        11. A method of masking data on a DVD for selective  
2 playback upon demand or for transcription to another medium,  
3        the DVD adapted for communication with a player or  
4 transcriber such that the DVD has a start location and a stop  
5 location with at least one data track therebetween, prior to the  
6 start location is a pregap,

7        each data track including a data recording area for  
8 executing at least one of recording and reproducing the data, and  
9 each track including a start position indicative of a beginning  
10 location for the data recording area for that track, the start  
11 location precedes the first start position for the first track for at  
12 least one of location or time, and the stop location follows the last  
13 data recording area for the last track for at least one of location  
14 or time, the first start position is indicative of the beginning of the  
15 data recording area for a first track and the start position for  
16 each subsequent track, if any, is indicative of the beginning of the  
17 data recording area for the respective track,

18        the method comprising the steps of:

- 19            (a) determining the position of the start location,  
20            (b) determining the position of the stop location,  
21            (c) positioning at least one data track on the DVD  
22        between the start location and the stop location,  
23            (d) identifying the pre-gap before the start location,  
24        and

25 (e) impressing data on the DVD and within the  
26 pre-gap for generating the concealed track having a hidden  
27 recording area for containing concealed data which can be  
28 accessed upon demand for transcription to another medium  
29 or for playback.

1 12. The method of masking data on a DVD for selective  
2 playback upon demand or for transcription to another medium  
3 as defined in claim 11 wherein the step of impressing data on the  
4 DVD and within the pre-gap for generating the concealed track  
5 further comprises the step of generating the concealed data track  
6 comprising the steps of:

7 (a) identifying a position within the pregap relative  
8 to at least one of location or time for operative association  
9 with a player/transcriber, and

10 (b) impressing the concealed data track on the DVD  
11 at the identified position comprising the steps of:

12 (1) impressing a recording area within the  
13 concealed data track, and

14 (2) impressing a start position within the  
15 concealed data track for indicating the location where  
16 the recording area begins for the concealed track.

1 13. A DVD containing data for selective playback upon  
2 demand or for transcription to another medium and for  
3 communication with a player, <sup>or</sup> transcriber ~~or the like~~, the DVD  
4 comprising:

5 (a) a start location,  
6 (b) a stop location,  
7 (c) at least one data track between the start location and  
8 the stop location,

9 each data track further comprising a data recording area  
10 for executing at least one of recording and reproducing the data,  
11 and each track including a start position indicative of a beginning  
12 location for the data recording area for that track, the start  
13 location precedes the first start position for the first track for at  
14 least one of location or time, and the stop location follows the last  
15 data recording area for the last track for at least one of location  
16 or time, the first start position is indicative of the beginning of the  
17 data recording area for a first track and the start position for  
18 each subsequent track, if any, is indicative of the beginning of the  
19 data recording area for the respective track, such that at least  
20 one data track is on the article between the start location and the  
21 stop location, and

22 (d) a pre-gap, prior to the start location, the pregap  
23 comprising data impressed on the DVD and within the pregap  
24 for defining a concealed track having a hidden recording area  
25 for containing concealed data which can be accessed upon

26 demand by the player or transcriber for transcription to another  
27 medium or for playback.

1 14. A DVD containing data for selective playback upon  
2 demand or for transcription to another medium and for  
3 communication with a player<sup>or</sup> transcriber ~~or the like~~, the DVD  
4 comprising:

5 (a) a start location,

6 (b) a stop location, and

7 (c) at least one data track between the start location and  
8 the stop location,

9 each data track further comprising a data recording area  
10 for executing at least one of recording and reproducing the data,  
11 and each track including a start position indicative of a beginning  
12 location for the data recording area for that track, the start  
13 location precedes the first start position for the first track for at  
14 least one of location or time, and the stop location follows the last  
15 data recording area for the last track for at least one of location  
16 or time, the first start position is indicative of the beginning of the  
17 data recording area for a first track and the start position for  
18 each subsequent track, if any, is indicative of the beginning of the  
19 data recording area for the respective track, such that at least  
20 one data track is on the DVD between the start location and the  
21 stop location, and



22 (d) a gap, adjacent to at least one track, the gap  
23 comprising a data recording area for executing at least one of  
24 recording and reproducing data, and

25 the gap further comprising data impressed on the DVD and  
26 within the gap for defining a concealed track having a hidden  
27 recording area for containing concealed data which can be  
28 accessed upon demand by the player or transcriber for  
29 transcription to another medium or for playback.